gress in the remaining five cases. In the one case where investigations have been completed, major penalty proceedings have been initiated against five engineers.

**Irregularities in construction of show-room-cum-warehouse at Okhla by NCCFo**

855. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 2206 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 8th May, 1987 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Sub-Committee of Directors of NCCF had pointed out in 1985 serious irregularities in the execution of the Okhla Project;

(b) whether it is a fact that expenditure of Rs. 32 lakhs and the Mobilisation Advance to the Contractor was made without approval of the Board, the Industrial Committee not being competent to sanction any expenditure.

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Chartered Accountant was not appointed from out of panel of Government Agencies/IDBI approved consultants:

(d) whether it is also a fact that the decision to authorise the Architect for issuing Tender Forms to only 7 firms was not approved by the Competent Authority and the construction work was awarded to a bogus firm ignoring 5 competent contractors; and

(e) if so, whether Government propose to get this matter investigated by the CBI?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A sum of Rs. 22.00 lakhs and Rs. 1.07 lakhs were given to the contractor and the Architect without the approval of the Board of Directors.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The decision to authorise the architect for issuing tender forms to only seven firms was not approved by the Competent Authority but the work was awarded to a firm on the basis of the lowest tender.

(e) The contract with the contractor has been cancelled. Action has already been taken to cancel the contract with the Architect. The services of the Officer-in-Charge have been terminated.

**Irregularities in import of Chickpeas by NCCF**

856. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 2295 given in the Rajya Sabha on 8th May, 1987 and to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NCCF reduced the original Bank Guarantee of the buyers from Rs. 6.35 lakhs to Rs. 4.25 lakhs in June, 1984 when the party had already defaulted in March, 1984 in lifting of entire Chickpeas Stocks;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Chickpeas stocks were sold without any tender @ Rs. 5300 PMT against the prevailing market rate of Rs. 6500;

(c) whether it is also a fact that on the face of claim of shortage of M/s. Kanahya Lal Siri Ram, 460 bags of sweeping were given by manipulation to M/s. Essell Enterprises;

(d) whether it is also a fact that illegal taking out of 860 bags of Chickpeas from the Port was covered by subsequently appointing a Surveyor on 8th March, 1984, and no shortage certificate was obtained from the Shippers which resulted in rejection of claim of NCCF; and

(e) if so, why this matter has not been handed over so far to the CBI?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) NCCF has reported that when the original buyer M\$s. Taj Consumer Coop. Society failed to lift the entire quantity, the remaining stock of chickpeas were sold to one firm at the offered rate of Rs. 5300 per MT, which was considered the best available rate at that time by the Grocery and General Merchandise Committee of NCCF.

(c) The firm M/S. Essell International was given 468 bags of sweeping with the approval of the then Managing Director.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) The matter was first investigated by a Sub-Committee of the Board of the NCCF, and thereafter by a senior officer of the NCCF.

The matter has also been referred to CBI for investigation.

**Action against officials of NCCF involved in import of dates**

857. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 2138 given in the Rajya Sabha on 8th May, 1987 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain officers of NCCF had fraudulently appointed a Kandla based Handling and Forwarding Agent in September 1984 without any tender who was also nominated as the buyers representative to cheat the NCCF.

(b) whether it is a fact that the Chief Manager (Import) while on tour to Dubai had also gone to Kuwait and other countries to collect underhand commission from the foreign supplier as also the difference between the contracted rate ($ 100) and the prevailing rate ($ 85) from the contractor who transported the Dry Dates from Basrah to Bombay;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Shippers have transacted in their books of accounts as having received the entire freight from Basrah to Bombay in Indian Currency against payment by NCCF in foreign currency in violations of FERA regulations;

(d) whether the CBI has since submitted its investigations report into the matter; and

(e) if so, what action has been taken against the officers, involved in these serious irregularities which resulted into the loss of rupees 1.5 crores to NCCF?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) to (c) The entire matter of alleged irregularities in the import from Iraq and sales of dry dates has been referred to the CBI for investigation. The CBI has also been requested to look into these specific charges while investigating the case.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

**Action against the official of NCCF, involved in import of Lentils**

858. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question 340 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 8th May, 1987 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain officers of NCCF manipulated acceptance of Cash Security of meagre amount of Rs. 1.10 lakhs against Bank Guarantee of Rs. 5.34 lakhs thereby enabling the foreign supplier to wriggle out from supplying Lentils to NCCF in 1984 and depriving NCCF of its legitimate right of forefeiture of full Bank Guarantee of Rs. 5.34 lakhs;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the buyer in India and seller in Turkey were represented by the same person;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Legal/Arbitration Proceedings against the supplier were delayed by an year